Briefing for ITCG – GRI Sustainability Taxonomy
The GRI Standards

- GRI is the global standard setter for impact reporting.

- For over 25 years, we have maintained the world’s most comprehensive set of sustainability reporting standards based on impact-materiality.

- The GRI Standards provide a global common language which enables informed dialogue and decision making, developed through an independent, multi-stakeholder process.

- The GRI Standards are available as a free public good for reporter preparers.

- Today there are around 14,000 companies who report annually using GRI.

- 289 policies across 102 countries that reference the GRI Standards in their policies or require their use by publicly listed companies.
The GRI Sustainability Taxonomy

- GRI is developing a taxonomy using XBRL to enable reporting using the GRI Standards in digital format.

  - Ensure GRI fulfils its role as global common language for impact-related sustainability reporting
  - Support access to GRI reported sustainability data
  - Improve quality of reporting
  - Mechanisms for harmonising sustainability reporting

- Public consultation: 11 June – 11 August
- Consultation webinars, July
The modular structure of the GRI Standards

- The Universal Standards are used by all organizations when reporting in accordance with the GRI Standards.
- The Sector Standards provide information for organizations about their likely material topics.
- The Topic Standards contain disclosures for the organization to report information about its impacts in relation to particular topics.
Other features of the GRI Standards that need to be accounted for in our taxonomy

• **Levels of accordance**
  - Reporting in accordance…
  - Reporting with reference to…
  - Requirements of reporting managed using business rules

• **Material Topics**
  - Materiality assessment is central to reporting
  - Sector Standards ‘likely material topics’

• **Omissions**
  - Reporting of omissions is an act of disclosure when reporting using the GRI Standards
  - Separate ELR to handle omissions
Disclosure 302-5 Reductions in energy requirements of products and services

The reporting organization shall report the following information:

a. Redonctions in energy requirements of products and services within the reporting period, in joules or multiples, and including the rationale for choices of reporting units.
b. Basis for calculating reductions in energy requirements, including the rationale for choices of reporting units.
c. Standards, methodologies, assumptions, and/or calculation tools used.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2.9 When compiling the information, the organization should:

2.9.1 if subject to different standards, methodologies, and/or calculation tools, they should be identified and describe how they were selected.

2.9.2 Other relevant information, such as fuel consumption or energy use, should be reported.

GUIDANCE

Guidance for Disclosure of Energy Consumption

Use-oriented figures should be reported as consumption/generation per product, product class, service, or any other meaningful unit.

Consumption patterns can be reported as fuel consumption or energy use, or as travel or time units.

Disclosure 302-1 Energy consumption within the organization

The reporting organization shall report the following information:

a. Total fuel consumption within the organization from non-renewable sources, in joules or multiples, and including fuel types used.
b. Total fuel consumption within the organization from renewable sources, in joules or multiples, and including fuel types used.
c. In joules, watt-hours or multiples, the total:

i. Electricity consumption
ii. Heating consumption
iii. Cooling consumption
iv. Steam consumption
d. In joules, watt-hours or multiples, the total:

i. Electricity sold
ii. Heating sold
iii. Cooling sold
iv. Steam sold
e. Total energy consumption within the organization, in joules or multiples.
f. Standards, methodologies, assumptions, and/or calculation tools used.
g. Source of the conversion factors used.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data types</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Numerical</td>
<td>Numeric data that is not monetary or a percentage</td>
<td>Gross direct (Scope 1) GHG emissions in metric tons of CO2 equivalent (see GRI 305-1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monetary</td>
<td>Monetary values</td>
<td>Corporate income tax paid on a cash basis (see GRI 207-4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Percentages</td>
<td>Return to work and retention rates of employees that took parental leave, by gender (see GRI 401-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boolean</td>
<td>Logical data that can either take the value ‘Yes’ or ‘No’</td>
<td>[The organization shall...] report whether the chair of the highest governance body is also a senior executive in the organization (see GRI 2-11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enumeration</td>
<td>Data whose value(s) can be chosen from a list</td>
<td>Gases included in the calculation [of Gross direct (Scope 1) GHG emissions]; whether CO2, CH4, N2O, HFCs, PFCs, SF6, NF3, or all (see GRI 305-1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>[The organization shall...] report the publication date of the report or reported information (see GRI 2-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short string</td>
<td>Short section of text</td>
<td>[The organization shall...] report its legal name (see GRI 2-1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long string (‘textblocks’)</td>
<td>Narrative disclosures, often descriptive</td>
<td>A description of the processes for workers to report work-related hazards and hazardous situations (see GRI 403-2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Validation / business rules

- Business rules in the GRI Sustainability Taxonomy have two primary functions:
  - Test adherence with requirements of reporting in accordance and with reference to the GRI Standards
  - Data consistency, accuracy and completeness

- In 2025, severity of business rules will likely be limited to WARNINGS except for business rules that test adherence to reporting requirements.
Filing of GRI digital reports

- Reporting organisations use third party services to develop their XBRL report.
- Reporting organisation develops their human-readable (pdf) sustainability report using the GRI Standards.
- Reporting organizations develop their own XBRL reports without third party services.
- Reporting organizations have in-house expertise to allow them to produce their own XBRL format reports, either directly or using specialist software.
- Reporting organisation enters data into GRI's webform to produce their XBRL report.
- Consultancy working with the reporting organisation also develops the XBRL report.
- Pdf sustainability report is tagged by a disclosure specialist.
- Digital report is filed by third party via the GRI filing portal.
- Filers register with GRI to submit reports.
- Iterative error checking
- Validation checks
- Digital report is filed by the preparer via the GRI filing portal
- Report is successfully filed
The GRI and ISSB taxonomies have been designed for different use and different audiences:

- **GRI sustainability taxonomy** – sustainability disclosures about an organization’s impact; not extensible; primary audience: regulators, reporting organizations, broadly classified ‘stakeholders’.

- **ISSB taxonomy** – sustainability disclosures about an organization’s sustainability-related risks and opportunities; primary audience: regulators, reporting organizations, investors and other financial data users.

This does not prevent them from being interoperable. The GRI and ISSB taxonomies can be used together to enable companies to provide digital sustainability information about an organization’s impacts, risks and opportunities that meet the needs of both investors and a broader range of stakeholders.

- Data point mapping with ESRS – agreed to collaborate on developing a concordance table.
Provisional roadmap – future development of the GRI Sustainability Taxonomy

11 June 2024: Public consultation launch

11 August 2024: Public consultation period closes

Q4 2024 (target): First translated version of the GRI Sustainability Taxonomy

Q4 2024 (date TBC): First release of the GRI Sustainability Taxonomy

Q4 2024 (target): User testing completed – GRI filing environment

01 Jan 2025: Organizations can begin filing XBRL-formatted GRI reports

Q2 2025 (target): Further functionality developed, including to support interoperability

Q3 2025 (target): Updated version of the GRI Sustainability Taxonomy released
Consultation Feedback received so far...
Thank you for your attention...

Please participate in our public consultation!

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